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Victims' rights, crime reduction, consumer protection and parental rights top the list of Cropsey's accomplishments

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LANSING—Protecting victims' rights by strengthening self-defense law, helping establish the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (MPRI), and working for consumer protection and parental rights were among the highlights of state Sen. Alan Cropsey's first term in the Senate.

"I've always felt that public safety is our first order of business," said Cropsey, R-DeWitt. "Strengthening victims' rights and forming the MPRI put key protections in place for our citizens."

Cropsey helped pass Senate Bill 309, which guarantees that consumers will be notified if their personal identification has been compromised at a business or school.

"Consumer protection is a critical aspect of protecting the rights of Michigan residents," said Cropsey. "I look forward to continuing to fight for the safety and rights of all our citizens in my next term, especially victims of identity theft and other crime."

Cropsey was also one of the key authors of new laws that define self-defense for the first time and enable people to defend themselves in extremely violent situations. The six-bill package allows a person to defend himself with no duty to retreat if faced with imminent violent danger. It also grants civil immunity to a person who exercises appropriate self-defense.

Cropsey was a key proponent of the MPRI, which was established in 2004. The MPRI reduces crime and enhances public safety by implementing a seamless system of services for offenders from the time of their entry to prison through their parole, community reintegration and oversight in their communities. The goal is to stop these individuals from committing additional crimes, a common occurrence.

The right of parents to help ensure the safety of their children was another important issue for Cropsey. Public Act 443 of 2006 allows a sentencing court to order, and parents to request, that minor children convicted or placed on probation for a "minor in possession" charge submit to random or regular breath tests. With more than 800,000 crimes a year in Michigan directly related to substance abuse, helping minors stop developing addictions or abuse is critical, said Cropsey. He authored the bill and shepherded it through the Senate.

"My goal in helping parents help their children is that we all see the promise of the ultimate crime victims' right—which is to not be a victim in the first place," Cropsey said.